

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No. 10001

Section 2, Special Branch

REPORT

Date January 16, 1935.

Subject: Reference the attached letter from the Consul-General for Switzerland relative (A) to one Adolf Landau and (B) the China Mutual Life Insurance Company, Ltd.

Made by D.S.I. Golder

Forwarded by

JSRm S.I.

(A) Aaron Landau alias Adolf Landau who was born of Russian parents in Jerusalem in 1872 is in possession of documents which describe him as being of Turkish nationality.

On August 8, 1931 he applied to the H.B.M. Consulate for permission to reside permanently in Hongkong and produced a certificate No. 381 issued on August 6, 1931 by the Bureau of Public Safety, Shanghai, to which the necessary visa was affixed.

At present Landau is operating a cafe in Hongkong and is assisted in its management by one of his sons. Another son is employed in Andersen, Meyer & Company, Hongkong.

(B) Enquiries regarding the China Mutual Life Insurance Company Ltd. indicate that such a concern was formed in 1898 by J. A. Wattie and a group of Chinese who provided the necessary capital. The business was registered with the British Consulate and in 1899 was registered under the Hongkong Ordinances. The concern at first made money but by 1921 there appears to have been a certain amount of dissension among the various directors over bad business with the result that the firm's interests were sold out to the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada, the offices of which are situated at No. 218 Szechuen Road.

D.S.I. Golder
Iman...

Fan Golder
D. S. I.

JSR 17/1

Deputy Commissioner (Special Branch)

S2
Would it be possible that the Swiss Consulate is referring to some other Landau. I think an A. Landau kept a droping store on Broadway.
MS

JSR

January

22

35.

Consul-General for Switzerland,
Shanghai.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your J.-VIII 5/25/64 of January 12, 1935, on the subjects of Mr. A. Landau and the China Mutual Life Insurance Company, Ltd, and in reply to state as follows :-

Aaron Landau alias Adolf Landau was born of Russian parents in Jerusalem in 1872, and now claims Turkish nationality. On August 8, 1931 he secured permission from H.B.M. Consulate in Shanghai to enter Hongkong and now operates a cafe in that colony. One of his sons assists him in the cafe and another is employed by Andersen, Meyer & Co., Hongkong.

The China Mutual Life Insurance Company Ltd was established in 1898 by J.A. Wattie and a group of Chinese. The firm secured registration under the Hongkong Ordinances in 1898. It carried on business successfully until 1921 when its interests were sold to the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada, No. 215 Spadina Road.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JOSEPH F. W. GARTLAND
Commissioner of Police.

W/S

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No. 100-3

S. 2, Special Branch, ~~Shanghai~~

REPORT

Date ¹⁹³⁵ January 21, 1935.

Subject (in full)

Reference the endorsement of D.C. (Special Branch)
on the report dated January 16, 1935.

Made by D.S.I. Golder.

Forwarded by

DBR

The general points in the history of Aaron Landau alias Adolf Landau were some days ago conveyed to the Chancellor of the Swiss Consulate General who having knowledge of the man's past was of the opinion that the right man had been located.

For place
D. S. I.

D. C. (Special Branch).

S2
I presume it won't be necessary to write to the Swiss Consulate?

DC SB

This matter has not yet been brought to the notice of the Swiss Consulate Officially. The above information was obtained by D.S. Golder from the Chancellor over the telephone.

DBR 22/1/35.

S2, Please submit a further report giving information about China Municipal Insurance Co.



**CONSULAT GÉNÉRAL DE SUISSE
SHANGHAI**

POUR TOUTE LA CHINE.

SHANGHAI January 12th 1935.

TELEG. ADR.: SWISSCOLAT

A. B. C. 5ÈME & 6ÈME ED.

BENTLEY'S COMPLETE & SECOND PHRASE CODE

REFERENCE NOTRE
VOTRE

J.-VIII 5/25/ 64

GENERAL POLICE
REGISTRY.

Mr. T.P. Givens,
Deputy Commissioner,
Shanghai Municipal Police.

Dear Mr. Givens,

In April 1926 your Prosecuting Solicitor Office was in touch with the Swiss Consulate General regarding a Mr. A. L a n d a u , who gave himself as a Swiss citizen. Do you know his actual whereabouts ?

Furthermore in 1901 - 1902 there was in Shanghai a China Mutual Life Insurance Company, Ltd. By chance could you find something about that company in your files.

With apologies to trouble you

I am, dear Mr. Givens,

Yours faithfully,

For the Swiss Consul General :

[Signature]
Chancellor.

D.S. I. Golda.

[Signature]

\$2, Please inquire and report. The inquiries re "B" should be confined to the police offices. The reply should be signed by C. P. *[Signature]*

On est prie de joindre à toute demande l'affranchissement pour la réponse et de ne traiter qu'un objet par lettre.

2. See Files:-
B. 317 (Ch. 4)
B. 343
1970
1998

No record in B.
S. B. Reg.

Shanghai Municipal Police.

2294

14. 10. 1918.

Wayside Police Station.

October 9th. 1918.

REPORT ON attached Memo referring to Adolf Landau.

Made by

D.S. Prosser.

Forwarded by

Chief Detective Inspector

Sir,

I respectfully beg to report with reference to attached Memo referring to Adolf Landau manufacturing spurious liquors and disposing of same without a license, that I had his residence kept under observation but no cases resembling that of liquor cases or otherwise left or entered the premises. He only occupies part of the house, having two Sub-Tenants. There is no spurious liquors manufactured on the premises.

He is a Commission Agent and indirectly deals in Wines and Spirits. If a Customer places an order with him to Import a certain quantity of liquor from Europe he takes the order on Commission. On arrival of the cargo it is placed in a Godown and he receives the Bill of Lading which he hands to the Customer to take delivery of.

On enquiry at the Savoy Hotel the Proprietor states that recently he purchased a barrel of oil from Landau, which is the only business transaction between them.

The Proprietor has a working arrangement with Messrs Yue Dah & Coy, Compradore Broadway, whereby he receives all his Wines and Spirits from that Firm.

Landau is said to be connected with or the Proprietor of the Shanghai Stage Newspaper, his Offices being situate in the premises previously known as the Oliver Buildings, Nanking Road.

Your Obedient Servant,

Chief Detective Inspector,

G. I. D.

John T. Prosser

D.S. Prosser

X. Lee also
B. 311
10/10/18

14/10

Memorandum.

2294
MUNICIPAL POLICE
CHIEF DETECTIVE INSPECTOR. 181

Shanghai, Sept 20th 1918.

To
Tel. No. 743.

The Superintendent of
Revenue reports that
information from his
inspectors indicate that
the person whose name is
given on attached list
is manufacturing, Spurious,
liquors and that recently
obtained license
to sell he disposed of a
Case to the Savoy Hotel

W. M. Armstrong
Sic. Criminal, Investigation, Dept.

791
A 115
1908.

4225 2296

11/11/21

26th. February, 1908.

Sir,

Adolph Landau

Referring to your letter of 17th. instant, I have the honour to inform you that Adolph Landau at one time opened the business of an auctioneer in Shanghai, and absconded with money belonging to people who had entrusted goods to him to sell. He returned after about three years absence but no action was taken against him as the amounts were small and the complainants were averse to prosecution. He opened on his return a house which he named the "China Business Exchange". He was in a short time summoned for debt to the Chinese Mixed Court as no Consul would acknowledge him. He did not answer the summons and left Shanghai eventually to avoid arrest. He has a sister in Shanghai, a Mrs Widler, who keeps a boarding house at No. 8, Quinsan Gardens.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

The Chief of Police
City of Manila,
Manila. P. I.

Captain Superintendent.

City of Manila.
Department of Police.

SECRET SERVICE BUREAU.

Manila, P. I.

February 17, 1908.

Sir:-

I have the honor to request that you furnish this office with any information you may have concerning one ADOLPHE LANDAU, a Swiss or German, who is at present in the Philippine Islands. This man is interested in the pineapple industry.

Very respectfully,

C. R. Traubridge

Chief, Secret Service.

Chief,

Department of Police,

Shanghai, China.

C-XX

C A 9
Ind. E. M. 11
24/2/08

Over

Adolph Landau at the time opened
the business of an auctioneer in Shanghai
and absconded with money belonging
to people who had submitted goods
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Wm M. Armstrong

26th 08

— 101

Shanghai Municipal Police. C. I. D.
I. O. REC.
No. 1940
Date 3. 6. 18

CENTRAL POLICE

Station.

1st June,

1918.

REPORT ON A. Landau, A Turkish Applicant for British Protection.

Made by D.S.I. Givens.

Forwarded by

Sir,

A Landau, a Turk, who formerly worked in the Palace Hotel and Astor House, is sober, well conducted and industrious. He has assisted the Police in making inquiries on various occasions. He is always eager to furnish information, but his stories cannot always be relied upon. His wife, who was a British subject before her marriage, is said to have one or two brothers at the front. Landau now lives at 95 Range Road.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. H. Givens

Detective Sub-Inspector.

Chief Detective Inspector.

Shanghai Municipal Police.

Central Police

Station.

December 19th, 1916.

REPORT ON Landau, Alleged to Assist Russian Deserters Leaving Shanghai.

Made by D.S. Givens.

Forwarded by

Sir,

Regarding attached, I beg to report that the Bristol Hotel is owned by an Austrian woman named Mrs Seif. Landau, who occupies a portion of the building, is a clerk in the Palace Hotel. He is a Swiss under American protection.

Enquiries have failed to elicit any confirmation of the information that he assists Russians who are leaving Shanghai to avoid military service. The man Jivotovski lived in the Bristol Hotel, but left it some days before the S.S. China sailed.

Landau professes to be pro-ally and has often assisted in making inquiries. He told me of the presence of Jivotovski in the Bristol Hotel, whom he thought might be Albeke about whom I was inquiring at the time, and arranged to have me see him. Jivotovski is about 22 years old, below medium height, and thin. He has a haggard appearance, and looks more like a Frenchman or Italian than Russian. He knows a little English, but speaks French fluently. A watch on Landau when the S.S. 'China' is about to sail again ^{will be kept} may reveal something.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

D.S. Givens

Detective Sergeant.

Chief Detective Inspector.

Dec 20/16
AM
20/16

Memorandum.POLICE FORCE, ²³
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, ^{14/12}

Shanghai, 14. 12. 1916

To C.D. 1.

It is said that LANDAU who keeps the Bristol Hotel in N. S. R. assists Russians to leave Shanghai when the Russian C. G. would send them home for military service. A specific instance is that of TIVOTOVSKI who left by the "Clina" recently. Please enquire. A. H.

CENTRAL POLICE

19th April, 1917.

D.S.I. Givens.

Sir,

* See
B. 317.
10 2294
0 1 10

On 19th inst. Adolphe Landau called on the Chief Detective Inspector and stated that he was born in Jerusalem of Russian parents on October 18th, 1872, and about 40 years ago went with his parents to Singapore, where they started a factory for canning pine apples in Albert Street. He came to Shanghai in 1901, and started business as an auctioneer in Rue du Consulate, French Town, and registered in the French Consulate. In 1902, he married a British lady named Brander by whom he has two sons and two daughters aged from 15 to 4. He gave up the auctioneering business in 1903 and went to India. He then went to Rangoon, where he established a pine apple canning factory. He left there in 1908, and came again to Shanghai. After remaining for a few months, he went to Bangkok, where he remained for 3 years as manager of the Aster Hotel. During his stay in Bangkok, he was known to Mr. Skinner-Turner, Judge of H.B.M.s Supreme Court.

Landau was a night watchman at the Paris exposition. He was once a book-keeper in a store in Manila, and has visited the United States.

Landau was registered in the French Consulate when he first came here, and has never been registered in any other consulate.

Landau came to Shanghai from Bangkok in September 1915, and has been employed for over a year as day clerk in the Palace Hotel.

Landau has hazel eyes, brown hair and is quite bald. He is 4 feet 11 inches high, and is a Jew.

Your obedient servant,

D. S. I. Givens

D. S. I.

Memorandum.

POLICE FORCE,
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

To *CD.*

Nothing known for
or against one
R. Landan ^{a Turk} in
reference to an
application he has
made to be registered
as a British protege.
His history is fully
known. Information
required as to his
source character.

was family in core
At the Palace &
A-House under.

Q. 41.

39/5

M